

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 3 and 4, without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], wherein said second terminal comprises an access right to authenticate said order information for at least one of said image data storing unit and said order information storing unit.
- 3-4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], wherein said risk ratio calculating unit calculates said risk ratio at the time of producing the printing pictures, wherein said production unit starts producing the printing pictures in a condition that said alert information is lifted.
6. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], further comprising a customer information storing unit for storing information relating to the customer, wherein said first terminal comprises a customer identification information input unit for inputting said customer identification information to identify said information relating to the customer.
7. (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said information relating to the customer comprises history information relating to a purchase

history of the printing pictures of the customer, and

wherein said risk ratio calculating unit calculates said credibility based on said purchase history of the customer.

8. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], further comprising a rate calculating unit for calculating a purchase price of the printing pictures based on said order information, wherein said risk ratio calculating unit calculates said risk ratio based on said purchase price.
9. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], wherein said first terminal is placed at a remote place that is at a distant location from said order information storing unit and is connected to said order information storing unit through a communication network.
10. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], wherein said first terminal is connected to said order information storing unit through the Internet.
11. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], wherein said second terminal displays the contents of said order information.
12. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], wherein said image data storing unit sends the image data and comprises a means for instructing said first terminal to display said sent image data.

13. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], wherein said identification information is given to the customer in exchange for receiving the image data, and

wherein said image data storing unit instructs said first terminal to display the image data by an input of said identification information from said first terminal.

14. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], wherein said identification information is provided by a bar code and a password associated with said bar code.

15. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], wherein said identification information input unit issues said order information when the image data is input by said image data input unit.

16. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], wherein said order information input unit comprises a means for inputting a priority condition relating to a production of the printing pictures as said order information, and

wherein said production unit defines a priority order for producing the printing pictures during production of a plurality of the printing pictures based on said priority condition included in said order information and produces the printing pictures based on said priority order.

17. (Currently Amended) A production management apparatus for managing a production of printing pictures ordered from a customer, comprising:

an order information input unit for receiving order information that designates order contents of the printing pictures;

an order information recording unit for recording said order information in an order information storing unit by associating with identification information identifying said order contents;

an order information reading unit for reading out from said order information storing unit said order information associated with said identification information after receiving said identification information as a production order to start producing the printing pictures;

a risk ratio calculating unit for calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value; ~~and~~

a task controlling unit for controlling the output of said order information to produce the printing pictures based on said order information; and

an image data storing unit for storing image data, wherein said image data stored in said image data storing unit is deleted when a term to store said image data is expired.

18. (Previously Presented) The production management apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said risk ratio calculating unit calculates said risk ratio at a time of the production of the printing pictures, wherein the production of the printing pictures is started in a condition that said alert information is lifted.

19. (Currently Amended) A designated production method for producing printing pictures of which a customer makes an order by designating the contents of the printing pictures,

comprising:

inputting order information that designates order contents of the printing pictures;

storing said order information by associating with identification information that identifies said order contents;

inputting said identification information as a production order to start producing the printing pictures;

reading out said order information associated with said identification information based on said identification information;

calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value; ~~and~~

producing the printing pictures designated by said order information; and
storing image data, wherein said image data is deleted when a term to store said image data is expired.

20. (Currently Amended) A business method for producing printing pictures, which a customer designates the contents of the printing pictures, comprising:

receiving from the customer order information that designates order contents of the printing pictures;

storing said order information by associating with identification information that identifies said order contents;

inputting said identification information as a production order to start producing the printing pictures;

reading out said order information associated with said identification information based on said production order;

calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value; ~~and~~

producing the printing pictures designated in said read order information and providing the produced printing pictures to the customer; and

storing image data, wherein said image data is deleted when a term to store said image data is expired.

21. (Previously Presented) The business method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the printing pictures comprises an output image that has output image data received from the customer,

wherein the business method further comprises storing the image data, and

wherein said producing reads out the image data after said identification information is input as said production order.

22. (Previously Presented) The business method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising:

receiving said customer identification information that identifies said information relating to the customer; and

wherein said producing starts producing the printing pictures by an input of said order information at said receiving if said risk ratio calculated by said calculating is below a

predetermined value.

23. (Previously Presented) The business method as claimed in claim 20, wherein said information relating to the customer comprises a history information relating to a purchase history of the printing pictures made by the customer, and

wherein said calculating calculates said credibility based on said history information of the customer.

24. (Currently Amended) A recording medium for storing a program that is executed by a computer managing a production of printing pictures ordered from a customer, the program comprising:

an order information input module for receiving order information that designates order contents of the printing pictures;

an order information recording module for recording said order information in an order information storing unit by associating with identification information that identifies said order contents;

an order information reading module to receiving said identification information as a production order to start producing the printing pictures and reading out order information associated with said identification information from said order information storing unit;

a risk ratio calculating module for calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value; and

an order information output module for outputting said order information to produce the printing pictures based on said order information; and

an image data storing module for storing image data, wherein said image data stored in said image data storing module is deleted when a term to store said image data is expired.

25. (Currently Amended) The production system as claimed in claim 36 [[1]], wherein said production unit temporarily stops producing the printing pictures designated in said order information according to said alert information.

26. (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 25, wherein said production unit resumes producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after said second terminal inputs said authenticated order information.

27. (Previously Presented) The production management apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said task controlling unit temporarily stops producing the printing pictures designated in said order information according to said alert information.

28. (Previously Presented) The production management apparatus as claimed in claim 27, wherein said task controlling unit resumes producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after said order information is inputted.

29. (Previously Presented) The designated production method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising:

temporarily stopping producing the printing pictures designated in said order

information according to said alert information.

30. (Previously Presented) The designated production method as claimed in claim 29, further comprising:

resuming producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after said order information is inputted.

31. (Previously Presented) The business method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising:

temporarily stopping producing the printing pictures designated in said order information according to said alert information.

32. (Previously Presented) The business method as claimed in claim 31, further comprising:

resuming producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after said order information is inputted.

33. (Previously Presented) The recording medium as claimed in claim 24, wherein said order information output module temporarily stops producing the printing pictures designated in said order information according to said alert information.

34. (Previously Presented) The recording medium as claimed in claim 33, wherein said order information output module resumes producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after said order information input module inputs said order information.

35. (Currently Amended) A production system for producing printing pictures ordered by a customer, the product production system comprising:

an order information input unit that inputs order information to designate order contents of the printing pictures; and

an identification information input unit that inputs identification information to identify said order contents;

a risk ratio calculating unit that calculates a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value; ~~and~~

a production unit that produces the printing pictures designated in said order; and
an image data storing unit for storing image data, wherein said image data stored in said image data storing unit is deleted when a term to store said image data is expired.

36. (Currently Amended) A production system for producing printing pictures ordered by a customer, wherein the printing pictures comprises an output image for outputting image data received from the customer to another medium, the printing pictures production system comprising:

a first terminal comprising:

an image data input unit for inputting the image data;

an order information input unit for inputting order information to designate order contents of the printing pictures; and

an identification information input unit for inputting identification information

to identify said order contents;

an image data storing unit for storing the image data by associating with said identification information;

an order information storing unit for storing order information by associating with said identification information;

a second terminal for inputting said identification information as information to be used for authenticating said order information;

a risk ratio calculating unit for calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value; and

a production unit for producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after receiving said authenticated order information and the image data,

wherein said order information storing unit comprises order expiry date information defining a term to store said order information, ~~and~~

wherein said order information is authenticated by extending the term determined by said order expiry date information when said identification information is input, and

wherein said order information stored in the order information storing unit is deleted when the term expires.

37. (Currently Amended) A production system for producing printing pictures ordered by a customer, wherein the printing pictures comprises an output image for outputting image data received from the customer to another medium, the printing pictures production system comprising:

a first terminal comprising:

an image data input unit for inputting the image data;

an order information input unit for inputting order information to designate order contents of the printing pictures; and

an identification information input unit for inputting identification information to identify said order contents;

an image data storing unit for storing the image data by associating with said identification information;

an order information storing unit for storing order information by associating with said identification information;

a second terminal for inputting said identification information as information to be used for authenticating said order information;

a risk ratio calculating unit for calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value; and

a production unit for producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after receiving said authenticated order information and the image data,

wherein said image data storing unit comprises image expiry date information defining a term to store the image data, ~~and~~

wherein said order information is authenticated by extending the term determined by said image expiry date information when said identification information is input, and

wherein said image data stored in the image data storing unit is deleted when the term expires.

38. (Currently Amended) A production system for producing printing pictures ordered by a customer, wherein the printing pictures comprises an output image for outputting image data received from the customer to another medium, the printing pictures production system comprising:

a first terminal comprising:

an image data input unit for inputting the image data;

an order information input unit for inputting order information to designate order contents of the printing pictures; and

an identification information input unit for inputting identification information to identify said order contents;

an image data storing unit for storing the image data by associating with said identification information;

an order information storing unit for storing order information by associating with said identification information;

a second terminal for inputting said identification information as information to be used for authenticating said order information;

a risk ratio calculating unit for calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value;

a production unit for producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after receiving said authenticated order information and the image data; and

a rate calculating unit for calculating a purchase price of the product based on said

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order information, wherein said risk ratio calculating unit calculates said risk ratio based on said purchase price,

wherein said image data stored in the image data storing unit is deleted when a term to store said image data is expired.